

firewood at a cost of Rs. 140-15-2, and a small house costing Rs. 49-14-2 was put up for the use of the Range Forest Officer, Sadhuja range, to replace one that had been destroyed by a flood. Existing buildings were repaired as usual.

48. In the Naushahro Division a new house was built for Range Forest Officer, Sehwan, at a cost of Rs. 101-0-0. No new buildings were put up in any of the other Divisions. Ordinary repairs to existing buildings were carried out.

CHAPTER IV.

YIELD AND WORKING.

SECTION 1.—DEPARTMENTAL OPERATIONS.

49. The following statement shows the details of the working of Departmental Depôts :—

Name of Depôt.	Stock on hand on 1st April 1888.			Added during the year 1888-89.			Disposed of during the year 1888-89.			Balance on 31st March 1889.		
	Timber.	Posts and Rafters.	Fuel.	Timber.	Posts and Rafters.	Fuel.	Timber.	Posts and Rafters.	Fuel.	Timber.	Posts and Rafters.	Fuel.
	C. ft.	No.	Mds.	C. ft.	No.	Mds.	C. ft.	No.	Mds.	C. ft.	No.	Mds.
Shikarpur ... ..	.....	.....	.....	652	18,749	200	325	9,947	...	327	8,902	200
Sukkur	8,622	8,234	91	4,040	6,497	1,200	3,284	6,014	1,125	9,378	8,917	266
Rohri	956	4,920	.....	1,297	14,376	.....	1,377	18,449	.....	876	847	.....
Larkana ... ..	.....	1,900	3,309	.....	.....	1,400	.....	1,633	4,428	.....	267	281
Sehwan ... ..	.....	13,996	.....	.....	4,906	...	.....	13,729	.....	.....	5,166	.....
Tatta	229	1,640	.....	.....	.....	.....	8	1,640	.....	221	.....	.....
Keti Bandar ... ..	.....	.....	166	7,843	.....	2,531	7,510	.....	812	333	.....	1,875
Kotri	911	80	33,279	472	.....	1,17,957	860	80	1,18,960	523	.....	32,276
Hyderabad	5,931	44,739	40,053	3,224	1,91,176	48,836	6,107	1,73,566	67,246	3,051	52,349	1,645
Total...	16,652	75,508	76,890	17,528	2,25,693	1,72,124	19,971	2,25,058	2,12,471	14,209	76,148	36,543

50. The quantity of timber and fuel sold at each depôt is given below :—

Name of Depôt.	Timber, c. ft.		Posts and Rafters, number.		Fuel, maunds.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Shikarpur	1,460	325	16,942	9,947	...	...
Sukkur	5,326	3,284	56,798	6,014	8,909	1,925
Rohri	823	1,877	10,723	18,449	...	...
Larkana	438	...	1,301	1,633	3,888	4,428
Sehwan	...	...	10,501	13,729	...	...
Karachi	1,743	...	...	...	...	...
Tatta	265	8	82	1,640	...	...
Keti Bandar	8,529	7,510	...	...	313	812
Kotri	3,243	860	28	80	1,25,637	1,18,960
Hyderabad	1,235	6,107	1,50,503	1,73,566	66,762	87,246
Total...	23,062	19,971	2,46,838	2,25,058	2,05,509	2,12,471

51. A statement of the quantity of timber supplid to the Railway and other Departments, &c, on indent :—

Name of Department.	Babul logs.	Babul sleepers.	Babul bolsters.	Bahan rafters.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
North-Western Railway	4	.....	128	.....
Karachi Harbour Works ... ..	.....	4,002	.....	.....
Gun Carriage Factory	390	.....	.....	.....
Hyderabad Municipality	985	.....	.....	3,000

52. The quantity of timber cut departmentally and disposed of in the forests during the year is given below :—

Name of Division.	Timber.	Babul posts.	Jhau posts.	Bahan posts.	Bahan rafters.	Kirir rafters.	Jhau rafters.	Babul slabs.
	C. ft.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Sukkur... ..	475	.....	.....	121	86	.....	.....	.....
Naushahro	1,060	45	.....	100	19,050	410	3,380	.....
Hyderabad	1,206	.....	.....	.....	3,000	.....	.....	22
Jerruck	89	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	700
Total...	2,830	45	.....	221	22,136	410	3,380	722

Except on eroding banks timber is only cut for disposal in the forest to meet requisitions made for it.

53 All the depôts were worked departmentally except the one in Hyderabad, which is worked on the share system.

54 In the Sukkur Division there is a very large falling off, due to the influx of timber imported from Foreign States. An application was made to Government with a view to putting a duty on Foreign timber to enable the Forest Department to recoup itself for the loss it suffers by Foreign importation of timber. But Government have desired that the selling prices in the Sukkur Division Depôts be reduced 20 per cent., with a view to ascertaining whether the reduction in price will increase sale. It may do so, but will not raise the revenue to its former level.

55. In the Naushahro Division the demand for large timber is so small that the stock in hand in 1887-88 was sold off and has not been renewed.

The sales in the smaller descriptions of timber show a small improvement.

56. In the Hyderabad Division there is a marked increase under all heads. Under timber the improvement is due to the glut in the market caused by the abnormally large sales of timber in 1886-87 having disappeared ; under other heads to better demand, which has been progressive for the last few years.

57. In the Jerruck Division the Karachi and Tatta Depôts have been abolished, and the timber sold is merely the clearing off of old stock in the Tatta Depôt. The timber shown in the Keti Bandar Depôt is the timber for the Gun Carriage Factory in Bombay, which is passed through the depôt books as a check.

58. A statement showing the quantity of firewood supplied under departmental agency to the State Railway and other Departments and large consumers is given below:—

To whom supplied.	Firewood in Maunds.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.
North-Western Railway	15,43,278	3,72,476
Commissioner's Steamer ... ..	.....	13,925
Indus Ferry Steamers	1,02,437	1,61,350
River Conservancy Department	7,124	6,295
Public Works Department ... ..	.....	222
Karachi Harbour Works	45,514	50,827
Commissariat Department	26,582	24,857
Hyderabad Water Works... ..	52,000	41,000
Sukkur Municipality... ..	1,550	3,550
Hyderabad Jail... ..	2,344	2,572
Government Farm, Hyderabad... ..	13,000	7,750
Manager, Incumbered Estates	3,000	.....
Total...	17,96,829	6,84,824

The railway had accumulated such a large stock of wood on hand that they withdrew their indent for the year commencing on 1st January 1888, and did not resume taking wood till the spring of 1889, hence the falling off in the quantity supplied. The large increase in the quantity supplied to Indus Ferry Steamers is all at Sukkur, but the reason for it is not given by the Divisional Forest Officer; it is probably due to the influx of people to visit the Sukkur Railway Bridge.

SECTION 2.—REMOVAL OF PRODUCE BY PURCHASERS.

59. The following is a statement of the value of timber and firewood removed from the forests other than that removed under the permit pass system :—

Name of Division.	Timber.		Firewood.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Sukkur	4,709	5,231	951	1,011
Naushahro	325	712	154	1,133
Hyderabad	1,322	2,515	859	2,934
Jerruck	913	934	432	368
Total...	7,269	9,392	2,396	5,446

60. The amount of fees paid on firewood brought for sale under the permit-pass system is as under:—

Name of Division.	Name of Ghat.	Revenue realized.	
		1887-88.	1888-89.
Sukkur	Rahuja	12,634	10,763
	Thali		
	Rohri		
	Sadar	16,449	13,708
	Stewart		
	Khura		
Naushahro	Larkana	2,599	2,666
	Gharhi	...	848
Hyderabad	New Fuleli	698	2,125
	Old Fuleli		
	Hajipur		
Total Rs. ...		32,380	30,110

The falling off under this head is due to the larger number of passes issued by the Revenue Department for wood collected on waste land in the Shikarpur District.

SECTION 3.—FREE GRANT.

61. Free grants of timber to the value of Rs. 1,653-12-10 were made to poor villagers and to those who had suffered loss by fire or erosion of the river bank.

SECTION 4.—SUMMARY OF PRODUCE.

62. The following is a statement of the timber worked out by departmental agency.

Name of Division.	Timber, cubic feet.		Posts, No.		Rafters, No.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Sukkur	7,982	6,721	11,212	6,927	73,261	26,827
Naushahro	526	1,422	2,965	829	46,342	37,843
Hyderabad	5,058	8,150	4,015	5,726	1,46,482	1,68,166
Jerruck	11,342	8,089	252	1,627	...	1,913
Total ...	24,908	24,382	18,444	15,109	2,66,085	2,34,749

63. The quantity of timber received by purchasers is as under :—

Name of Division.	Timber, cubic feet.		Posts, No.		Rafters, No.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Sukkur.....	3,627	6,434	980	1,579	78,911	1,10,852
Naushahro	1,412	2,223	...	200	7,029	8,167
Hyderabad	2,911	5,932	3,155	4,302	11,915	15,495
Jerruck	847	2,171	758	909	1,629	1,762
Total ...	8,797	16,760	4,893	6,990	99,484	1,36,276

64. The total yield in timber of each description is given below :—

Name of Division.	Timber, cubic feet.		Posts, No.		Rafters, No.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Sukkur.....	11,609	13,155	12,192	8,506	1,52,172	1,37,679
Naushahro	1,938	3,645	2,965	1,029	53,371	46,010
Hyderabad	7,969	14,082	7,170	8,881	1,58,397	1,83,661
Jerruck	12,189	10,260	1,010	2,536	1,629	3,675
Total ...	33,705	41,142	23,337	20,952	3,65,569	3,71,025

65. The total yield in firewood of each Division is as under :—

Name of Division.	Firewood.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.
Sukkur.....	12,98,252	7,43,008
Naushahro	4,83,451	1,60,255
Hyderabad	4,70,105	3,05,813
Jerruck	2,51,497	2,11,590
Total ...	25,03,305	14,20,666

66. The total yield in charcoal is as follows :—

Name of Division.	Charcoal.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.
Sukkur.....	2,050	2,167
Naushahro	5,756	4,408
Hyderabad	11,232	3,962
Jerruck	27,831	31,941
Total ...	46,869	42,478

67. The total yield of the Circle in timber, firewood, and charcoal is given below:—

Timber.....	{ 1887-88	C. ft.	33,705
	{ 1888-89	„	41,142
Sleepers	{ 1887-88	No.	5,301
	{ 1888-89	„	4,002
Posts	{ 1887-88	No.	23,337
	{ 1888-89	„	20,952
Rafters	{ 1887-88	No.	3,65,569
	{ 1888-89	„	3,71,025
Firewood.....	{ 1887-88	Mds.	25,03,305
	{ 1888-89	„	14,20,666
Charcoal	{ 1887-88	Mds.	46,869
	{ 1888-89	„	42,478

68. The realizations from the sale of farms to collect minor produce are given in the following statement :—

Name of Division.	Babul pods.		Lac.		Munj and Sar grass.		Fishery.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.	1887-88.	1888-89.
Sukkur	240	455	...	...	614	681	2,008	1,933
Naushahro	1,633	3,518	...	...	413	503	504	779
Hyderabad	6,939	9,555	756	778	...	...	368	503
Jerruck	2,914	3,630	...	...	25	...	594	277
Total ...	11,726	17,158	756	778	1,052	1,184	3,474	3,492

The only point that need be noticed is the increase in the price of the farms of the right to collect babul pods for feeding cattle in the hot weather. This may fairly be claimed as the result of the successful efforts that have been made during the last twelve years to improve the condition of the babul forest in Central and Lower Sind. Extensive areas that ten years ago were quite open or sparsely covered with jungle that one could see over, now bear splendid babul forest growing fast into maturity.

The young trees have come into bearing within the last two or three years, and enormously increased the supply of babul pods available for picking.

69. An application was received from a gentleman in England who undertook to push the sale of babul bark as a tanning material, if he could be given the monopoly of the export of babul bark to Europe for ten years. There was also an offer from a local contractor, who agreed to take out 17,500 maunds of bark in a year and buy all the timber and firewood resulting from the fellings for bark. The grant of monopoly was not considered desirable by the Commissioner, and the offer of the local contractor was accepted, his agreement being for thirteen months, commencing from 1st July 1888 and ending on 30th July 1889. The conditions were that the contractor carry on his operations in compartments selected by the Forest Department, entirely clear them of all suitable trees, bear the cost of felling and stripping, and pay a royalty of Rs. 20 per 100 maunds on the bark and Rs. 61-4-0 on the firewood resulting from the fellings. Work was commenced as soon as possible and pushed on with great energy, and was progressing very satisfactorily, when, unfortunately, the contractor died of cholera in November. The contractor's security, after a little pressure, was induced to carry on the contract, but the chances of its satisfactory fulfilment are more than doubtful, as all enterprise in the undertaking died with the original contractor.

70. The revenue from grazing fees was as under :—

Name of Division.	Grazing fees.	
	1887-88.	1888-89.
Sukkur	17,268	17,656
Naushahro	8,135	8,875
Hyderabad	14,731	16,379
Jerruck	12,855	14,270
Total	52,989	57,180

71. Four thousand six hundred and forty-nine maunds of babul bark was removed from the forests by the contractor alluded to in para. 40.

SECTION V.—EXPORT OF FOREST PRODUCE.

72. Three hundred and ninety babul logs were exported to Bombay for the use of the Government Gun Carriage Factory.

73. Two lacs twenty-two thousand six hundred and twenty-five cubic feet of firewood, was exported to Bombay, Katiawar, and other Ports.

74. With a view to stimulating the export trade in firewood a monopoly of all the wood that can be exported from the forests in Lower Sind was given to a contractor for three years, who agrees to buy a minimum of 3,00,000, 4,00,000, and 4,50,000 cubic feet respectively during the three years currency of his monopoly. The wood to be cut and stacked by departmental agency and delivered on the bank of the river. Failing to remove the minimum quantity agreed upon for each year the contractor to pay royalty on the quantity not taken at Rs. 17 per stack of 1,000 cubic feet and Rs. 11 per stack of 675 cubic feet.

CHAPTER V.—FINANCIAL RESULTS.

75. The total receipts and expenditure during the last two years are as follows :—

	Actuals, 1887-88.	Actuals, 1888-89.	Increase.	Decrease.
Receipts	6,32,302	4,15,867	...	2,16,435
Expenditure A, Conservancy and Works	3,54,985	1,85,884	...	1,59,101
Ditto B, Establishment	1,11,142	1,00,227	...	10,915
Total Expenditure	4,66,127	2,86,111	...	1,70,016
Net Revenue	1,66,175	1,29,756	...	46,419